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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: N. KOBAYASHI et al.
Serial No.: 09/887,328
Filed: June 25, 2001
For: DIGITAL MAGNETIC RECORDING/REPRODUCING APPARATUS
Art Unit: 2634
Examiner: C. Fan

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

September 25, 2001

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Submitted herewith is a credit card payment form in payment of the additional claim fee of \$80.00 due in connection with the filing of the present preliminary amendment.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Delete the paragraph on page 4, line 25, through page 5, line 27, and replace it with the following replacement paragraph:

A1
--In recent years, other various signal processing systems for higher-density recording have been discussed in